

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows.

~~Herein described is a~~ A device for closing the front flap in a self-dimensioning machine for closing the upper flaps of parallelepiped boxes of the type ~~comprising~~ including a base with support surface for the boxes, a couple of drive belts that can be ~~motorised~~ motorized placed at the two sides of ~~said the~~ the support surface and that can be brought close to each other to make a drive engagement with the sides of the boxes and a head above ~~said the~~ the support surface, that carries devices for closing the front, rear and side flaps of the boxes and can be commanded to descend from a rest position to engage the above-mentioned devices with the upper flaps of the boxes and to close them. ~~Means~~ A device for detecting the position and the dimensions of the boxes for the automatic command of the machine movements are provided for. The device for closing the front flap ~~comprises~~ includes a rod for straightening and partially closing the front flap, that is pivoted on ~~said the~~ the head and is stressed to keep itself flexibly in a vertical position, a vertically mobile touching group for detecting the height of the boxes and successively to ~~said the~~ the head in the advancement direction of the boxes, a central longitudinal guide for completing the closing of the front flap, that is carried by ~~said the~~ the touching group so as to position itself in a horizontal position above ~~said the~~ the support surface at a height corresponding

to the height detected of the boxes to meet the front flap partially closed by ~~said~~ the straightening rod and to complete its movement to a closing position.